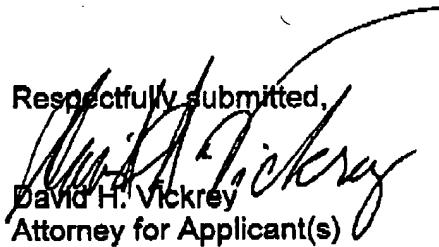


Conclusion

Applicants submit that every issue raised by the outstanding Office Action has been addressed and rebutted. Applicant respectfully submit that the present claims define patentable subject matter and are in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that a conference would be helpful in advancing the prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone Applicants' Attorney at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,


David H. Vickrey

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 30,697

Akzo Nobel Inc.
Intellectual Property Department
7 Livingstone Avenue
Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522-3408
Tel No.: (914) 674-5460